Sevententh Sunday after Pentecost Harvest Home Sunday – World Communion October 5, 2025

# **WELCOME**

A warm welcome to visitors who join us today to worship our Risen Lord! We invite you to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave worship today. Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.

Children are always welcome at worship.

If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery available for parents and their children on the second floor in the education wing. Take the first left down the hallway, and the nursery is the first door on your right.

Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices for today's worship are available.

Please feel free to ask an usher if interested.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST October 5 to October 12				
	10:45 a.m.	Holy Communion + First Communion		
Monday	3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in Parlor Council & Long Range Planning Meeting Bells 101 Class Scouts		
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Property Meeting Scouts		
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting		
Thursday	1:00 p.m. 6:15 a.m. 7:15 a.m.	WELCA Meeting Rose Ringers Choir		
Sunday	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Social Missions Committee		

# GATHERING

#### WELCOME & PRELUDE

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Please stand as you are able.

In the name of the Father. and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Most merciful God.

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have squandered your bountiful gifts. We have considered the blessings of the harvest our due. We have been indifferent in planning and planting for the future needs of your church. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, cause gratitude to ripen in our hearts, and wisdom to mature in our minds, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ. and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

# Sing to the Lord of Harvest



#### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Chirst, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

### **KYRIE**





#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on Revelation 5

Music: The Shepherd's Daughter and the King, Appalachian traditional

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God, our provider, you grant us an abundant harvest so that your children throughout the world may be fed. Establish in us thankfulness and faithful stewardship, that we may return the first fruits of praise and use your gifts of field and livestock, tree and vine to fulfill the needs of the hungry and the sojourner; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# WORD

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – HARVEST HOME

On this World Communion Sunday, we are grateful to have Asajile Mwakalinga, a member of the Lake Tanganyika Diocese of the Lutheran Church in Tanzania reading our scriptures today. He has recently earned a master's of music degree.

#### FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4;2:1-4

<sup>1</sup> The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup> O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup> Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;

strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup> So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

<sup>2</sup> Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it.

<sup>3</sup> For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;

it will surely come; it will not delay.

<sup>4</sup> Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 37:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

- <sup>2</sup> For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.
- <sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- <sup>4</sup> Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.
- <sup>6</sup> The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

  Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- <sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.
- <sup>9</sup> For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

#### SECOND READING

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup> I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup> Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, <sup>7</sup> for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup> Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, <sup>9</sup> who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup> but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup> For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup> and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup> Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

# O God, Whose Word Well-Planted

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr. Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b.



GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10

The Gospel according to Luke, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" <sup>6</sup> The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup> "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'?

<sup>8</sup> Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? <sup>9</sup> Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

#### **SERMON**

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

# **Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

Text: John Fawcett Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nageli





#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, receive our prayer.

Please be seated.

# MEAL

#### **GATHERING OF GIFTS**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Online giving is available at felcc.org or by scanning this QR code



**ANTHEM** 

One World, One Communion

by Pepper Choplin

Please stand as you are able

# Accept, O Lord, The Gifts We Bring

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer Music: Barb'ry Ellen, Apalachian traditional



#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

# Long, Long Ago In Jerusalem

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Sanctus Music: Shady Grove, Appalachian Tradional



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying;
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

# INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This morning we recognize Kenley Craven who will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time. The Lord invites you along with Kenley to his table. **Thanks be to God.** 

Please be seated.

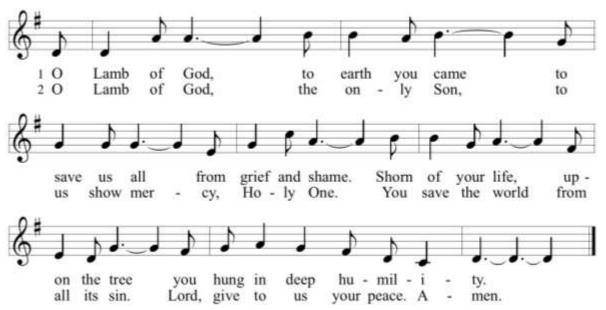
#### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

All Christians who believe that Jesus is truly present in the bread (body of Christ) and in the wine (blood of Christ) are welcome at the Lord's Table.

To receive Holy Communion, please come down the center aisle, take a glass (the prefilled glasses contain grape juice), and gather at the altar.

Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing.

# **LAMB OF GOD**



# **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Please stand as you are able.

#### TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

### POST COMMUNON PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

# SENDING

#### **EUCHASTIC MINISTERS**

Gracious God, in this season after Pentecost, as the Holy Spirit leads and guides us, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick or homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament. Give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

### **BLESSING**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. **Amen.** 

# O Lord of the Blossom



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer

Music: My Home, North American traditional

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

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# Please remember in your prayers ...

Healing: Karen Shatzer Diehl (10/11), Dalton Paul (10/18), Julie Paul (10/18).

Continuing Prayers: Joanne Caskey, Linus Christman, Pat Dent, June Diehl, Mark Hammer, Charles Kampmeyer, Joe Pine, Karin Woods.

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold

September 28 67 in person 8 online **ATTENDANCE** 

**THANK YOU** to the musicians for leading "Of the Land and Seasons" Liturgy this morning.

**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS** We're looking for anyone willing to help out with running audio or slides for Sunday services. Please reach out **VOLUNTEERS** to Dan Worcester at danbirdchirps@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer and learn something new!

**COUNCIL AND LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE** will be meeting with the Lower Susquehanna Synod Mission Developer, Pastor Richard Jorgensen, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 6.



 $\sim 0^{M} E_{A}$  THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA) will gather for Bible Study and fellowship on Thursday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m. in ♂ Meeting Room 1. Discussion will be about the women of the Bible. All women of the church are welcome!

**SOCIAL MISSIONS MEETING** Committee will be meeting on Sunday, October 12 following worship to prayerfully discern the disbursement of the congregation's money that has been set aside for benevolent giving.

#### STEWARDSHIP...God is Steadfast Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

2026 Anticipated Giving Cards for our Stewardship Season are being mailed the week of October 9. We ask that you return them on Sunday, October 19, 2025 in the offering or to the church office.

KONDE DIOCESE Shelly Davies from St. Luke Lutheran Church in Chambersburg traveled this summer to the Konde Diocese and attended the dedication of the Mbeya Hospital in Tanzania. This is the hospital to which our congregation donated \$20,000 to help build. Shelly will be giving a temple talk on her experience on Sunday, October 19 at the beginning of our worship. ALSO... St. Luke Lutheran Church is hosting a meet and greet with the Bishop of the Konde Diocese, Dr. Lee from the Mbeya Hospital, and others from Konde on Thursday, October 16 from 6 to 8 pm. There will be relaxed dinner, music, and conversation. Please RSVP if you would like to come, so they may adequately prepare. diredu@stlukechambersburg.org 717-372-9579



<u>CROP WALK</u> will be held on Sunday, October 19. We will start at First United Methodist Church on the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Washington Street at about 1:30 and the walk will begin at 2:00. Money raised will be donated to organizations that feed the hungry both locally

and abroad. Contact Bill Nienstedt (call/text 717-491-9704 or email billnienstedt@msn.com). Walkers are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the local food pantry.

**REFORMATION SUNDAY** will be celebrated on Sunday, October 26 at our 10:45 worship. We wear red to remember the work of the Holy Spirit as God continues to reform our church and our lives today, according to his will.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025 If you have a loved one who has entered the church triumphant between November 1, 2024 and October 31, 2025 whom you would like to have remembered by name on All Saints Sunday, please contact the church office and include the spelling of the name, and date of death if available. felccoffice@gmail.com



### HATS SCARVES AND MITTENS hanging time is here again

the Neighborhood Task Team is planning to hang items that will help our neighbors stay warm in the winter months. These items will be hung on the church fence. What can you do to help with this project? Purchase new or donate gently used hats, scarves and

mittens for men, women and children to donate to this project. Share this with your friends, relatives and neighbors. Volunteer to hang items on the fence. Dates are today, November 2, December 7, and January 17-19. Contact Mary Beth Warne at 717-372-8282.

**BIRTHDAY BAGS** Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Birthday Bags for Little Daisy's Closet! This is an ongoing project. I try to make up 4 - 6 bags a month. Items are needed: Large Birthday bags, balloons, plates, napkins, candles, small gifts, snack items, cakes, icings, cake pans. Birthday cards are not currently needed. Thank you for your ongoing support. Thanks, Joyce Ray.



<u>FIRST LUTHERAN'S SCOUT TROOP #128</u> is selling popcorn and nuts to fundraise for Summer 2026's week long camping trip. See Kristy Nienstedt if you would like to purchase items. Your support is greatly appreciated.



**COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINEES** Do you feel the tug of the Holy Spirit to serve on Church Council at First Lutheran? The election will be in November. If you have an interest or you would like more information about this, please talk with Joyce Ray or Pastor Nicholson.

**DISCOUNT CARDS** SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary is selling discount cards. For \$5 each. Money raised will help The Inn. The card is active now through 9/1/26 and may be used for discounts at various area businesses. Please see Mary Beth Warne to purchase.

# **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

	October 5	October 12	October 19
Lector:	Nancy Fricke	Jane Love	Gary Fleegal
Communion Assistants:	Becky Hoover Jane Love Karen Sloan		Becky Hoover Jane Love Karen Sloan
Greeters:	Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy	Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy	Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy
Closer	Jeff Dorand	Jeff Dorand	Jeff Dorand
Altar Guild:	Deb Fleegal Gary Fleegal	Deb Fleegal Gary Fleegal	Deb Fleegal Gary Fleegal
Ushers:	Jim Brown Don Shoop Mary Beth McGraw- Bob Wildeson	Jim Brown Don Shoop Warne Mary Beth Bob Wildeson	Jim Brown Don Shoop McGraw-Warne Bob Wildeson



Pastor
Pastoral Assistant
Director of Church Music
Parish Administrator
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Technical Lead
Custodian

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The Rev. Jane Nicholson
The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer
Freda J. Dorand, Deacon
Ashley Hessong
Sally Herritt
Carol McCoy
Daniel Worcester
Jennifer Flores

Church Office Hours − Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. − 1 p.m.

## We welcome visitors this morning.

Please pick up a **visitor's packet**. They are located at the top of the steps. at the rear of the church or on the table at the elevator entrance.

#### **Our Mission**

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to be the light of Jesus, burning brightly and vigorously in our community.

# **Sunday Schedule**

Donuts and Coffee at 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages at 9:30 a.m.
Worship at 10:45 a.m.
also on Facebook at First Evangelical Lutheran Church
and on our webpage at www.FELCC.org
ALL are invited to hear and receive God's blessing in Jesus,
and to worship with us.